

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION  
SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0049131-02-0

Permittee: Wisconsin Electric Power Company-Paris Generating Station, PO Box 2046, Milwaukee, WI 53201

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Wisconsin Electric Power Company-Paris Generating Station, 335 172nd Avenue

Receiving Water and Location: An unnamed tributary to the Des Plaines River in the Town of Paris

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Wisconsin Electric Power Company-Paris Generating Station operates a gas-fired electric power plant in the Town of Paris in Kenosha County. The Paris Generating Station (PSGS) consists of four combustion turbine-generators that use natural gas as the primary fuel with low sulfur diesel fuel as an emergency backup. An inlet air cooling system consisting of two 2.5 million gallon ice water storage tanks, cooling coils and a mechanical refrigeration system increases the summer peaking capability of the units by approximately 48 MW. The summer capacity of the plant is 386 MW, while the winter capacity is 400 MW.

The PSGS takes water from an on-site, high capacity well for plant cooling to remove evaporator load and the heat of compression from refrigeration systems. The refrigeration systems produce ice during periods of off-peak electrical demand. During warm weather, ice water stored in large storage tanks is circulated through chilled water coils placed across the intake air ducts for the combustion turbines. When the intake air flows past the chilled water coils, the air is cooled (cooler air is denser), maintaining the capacity of the combustion turbines during periods of peak summertime electrical demand. The plant typically fills the ice water tanks in late April to early May and then makes ice as needed, until the beginning of September when the remaining ice is used or allowed to melt.

The current permit includes intermediate sample points 101 for the oil/water separator, which treats an average reported flow of 1,622 gallons per day (GPD) of stormwater and floor drain water when discharging; Sample Point 102, multimedia filter/reverse osmosis backwash water that discharges an average reported flow of 86,000 GPD when discharging; Sample Point 103, that discharges an average flow of 30,637 GPD of evaporative condenser blowdown when discharging; and Sample point 001, which is the combined discharge downstream of these intermediate sample points that has reported a maximum flow of 166,619 GPD in the term of the current permit. All the outfalls are independent and may or may not all discharge at the same time or on the same day. The current permit does not include a sample point for a possible discharge of ice water storage tank discharge, which would occur only if one of the two ice water storage tanks needed to be drained. To date, the tanks have not been drained. In the event of draining one or both tanks, the reported flow from Sample Point 001 should include the volume from the drainage.

Permit Drafter/Basin Engineer: Gerald Jarmuz, DNR Service Center, 141 NW Barstow St., Rm. 180, Waukesha, WI 53188, (262) 574-2312, gerald.jarmuz@dnr.state.wi.us

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination.

A public informational hearing may be held if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Stats., or if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter/basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (262) 574-2312 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (usually 20 cents per page) will be charged for copies of information in the file other than the public notice and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/ww>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

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